

# WORLD HISTORY I Course Syllabus

2017-2018



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Delta Period: Room 005

Epsilon Period: Room 019

**Course Description:** Welcome to World History I! In this course, we will learn about events spanning from approximately 500 C.E. through approximately 1700 C.E. We'll divide this chunk of time into two eras: (1) 500 C.E - 1400 C.E and (2) 1400 CE - 1700s C.E. We'll focus mainly on the events of Afroeurasia during this time, including how the various societies and world religions (i.e. Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam) politically, culturally, intellectually, and economically interacted, and how the values and ideas of "modern" thinking emerged. The hope is that students will understand how what is often called the "eastern" world impacted the "western" world and vice versa, and that students will also recognize how current events in our local and global communities are connected to the historical events we study.

## Room 005 Course Essential Questions

How do different parts of the world impact each other?

How can we use history to correct modern-day misconceptions?

## Course Goals:

1. To broaden perspectives
2. To increase awareness of the world's interdependence
3. To understand the significant people, events, institutions, ideas, and developments that have shaped world history, thought, and culture

## Materials:

Please bring the following materials to every class:

- **Paper and pen/pencil**
- **The reading and/or textbook we are currently using** – please assume that you should bring this EVERY day! The text sources will be light-weight enough that you can transport them daily.
- **Class Binder:** You will need a 1.5-2 inch binder for this class. There will be periodic “binder checks” where students will need to have and locate specific past assignments or notes. So, bring your class binder with you EVERY day, and keep it organized.
  - Dividers for your binder are a wonderful thing, and it’s strongly suggested you use some! You may label the dividers as you find most helpful, but here are some suggestions: **(1) Class Notes, (2) Homework & Classwork, (3) Assessments (Quizzes, Tests, & Projects)**

## Grading Scale:

Grades are determined by using the following criteria:

- Tests: 30%
- Projects/Papers: 20%
- Quizzes: 20%
- Homework: 15%
- Classwork & Participation: 15%

## Grading Scale in Percentages:

93-100%=A  
90-92%=A-  
86-90%=B+  
83-86%=B  
80-82%=B-  
77-79%=C+  
73-76%=C  
70-72%=C-  
67-69%=D+  
63-66%=D  
60-62%=D-  
59% or below=F

## Homework/Late Work

In adherence to Washington Latin's policy, late homework will not be accepted. Students will receive a "0" for missed assignments. For long-term projects, students will be penalized 10%--one full letter grade--per day the assignment is late. If you are sick or have an excused absence, you are responsible for getting all missing work. You will have as many days to complete the work as you were absent.

## Our Units of Study

ERA	UNIT	CONCEPTS WE'LL LEARN ABOUT
ERA 1: 500 - 1400 CE	Overview of Era 1 (500-1400 CE)	Patterns in trade, empires, and belief systems during Era 1; Empires across the world during Era 1; Belief systems from around the world (Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Daoism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Zoroastrianism)
	Western Europe & Japan in the Middle Ages	Feudalism in Europe and Japan; the start of European universities and Scholasticism; the social, political, and economic role of early Christianity
	The Rise of Islam	The basic beliefs of Islam; the start of Islam; the spread of the early Islamic Empire; the cultural, intellectual, and political role and impact of early Islam; the Crusades
ERA 2: 1400 - 1700s	Indian Ocean Trade & African Civilizations	The history of gunpowder; the Indian Ocean spice trade; Great Zimbabwe, Zanzibar, Kilwa, Ethiopia, Kingdom of Kongo, Ndongo, Sao Tome, & Principe; art and architecture in Africa during this time period; Africa and Europe's pre-Atlantic slave trade and post-Atlantic slave trade social, economic, political, and religious interactions
	The Renaissance & Europe during Era 2	Humanism, individualism, skepticism, and secularism; Renaissance art and the general role of art in a community; the printing press; the Protestant Reformation; new ideas in European science

## Class Rules and Expectations:

In order to create a safe learning space, please keep in mind these following classroom rules and expectations:

- **Promptness:** *Be on time to class! If you come to class and Ms. Figueroa has already closed the door, you're tardy.*
  - **WLPCS Upper School Tardy Policy:** *If a student is late, without a valid excuse as determined by the teacher, to an individual class more than 3 times in a quarter, on the 4th time, he/she will automatically lose 5% from his/her quarter grade. If a student is then late another 3 times, on the 8th time, he/she will lose another 5%.*
- **Active participation:** *Students must be on time in order to receive full participation points. Learning requires active participation. Keep in mind that valuable participation includes raising questions about what you do not understand, questioning and/or challenging the assumptions of the course materials, as well as demonstrating a firm grasp of the material.*
- **Respect:** *Together we will create a climate of mutual respect. Students are expected to treat each other with respect at all times. Racist, sexist, homophobic, and overall offensive language does not contribute to creating a safe learning space. It is fine for students to disagree or to challenge another student's viewpoint, as long as it is in a respectful manner.*
- **Follow the Washington Latin dress code** - *The classroom temperature fluctuates, so bring a Latin sweater/jacket if you're temperature sensitive!*
- **Only water is allowed in class;** *avoid any other drinks, gum, or food.*
- **Bring your supplies with you.** *With the exception of the first week of school, you will not be able to go to the locker for forgotten assignments or supplies.*
- **Keep backpacks and bags off tables**—*please put them on the back of your chair/hang from your table hooks.*
- **Restroom Use:** *Use the restroom during break or passing period! Students may only use the restroom during double block classes as long as it's not when the teacher is introducing new material.*
- **Communication:** *Please reach out to Ms. Figueroa if you have any questions or doubts about course materials and concepts. I will be available through email at [jfigueroa@latinpcs.org](mailto:jfigueroa@latinpcs.org). Contact Ms. Figueroa know if you like to meet with her during after-school tutorials.*

## WORLD HISTORY I SYLLABUS

### **Syllabus Signature** – *This is a homework grade!*

Please review this syllabus with your parent(s)/guardian(s). (And, thank you for taking the time to do so!) Then, please sign below to indicate that you have read and understand what is mentioned in this syllabus, including grading policy and classroom rules.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

**Dear Parent/Guardian**—is there anything you would like for me to know about your student or family? (This is optional.)

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*Thank you for your time!*